

September 4, 1974

Dr. Jay ~~Tepper~~mann
Department of Pharmacology
SUNY College of Medicine
750 East Adam Street
Syracuse, New York 13210

Dear Dr. ~~Tepper~~mann,

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I note that you had written an article in Perspectives "The Research Scientist in Modern Fiction" about 15 years ago. This is probably the only one of your writings that does not appear as far as I can tell in the Science Citation Index! But I was happy to encounter a reference to it in a bibliography on science, technology and public policy that was published a few years ago. I have been looking for some more comprehensive literary-critical studies on exactly the theme expressed by your title. The matter came up in a number of ways, most recently when in a class that I teach on health, I mentioned the novel "Arrowsmith" and found that only two out of a class of 60 students professed to have ever heard of it. (Both happened to be bright young black women). I had to ponder that it would be impossible to see a novel today that focused on scientist-as-hero, a reflection that leads me to my present quest.

It seems to me likely that there have been several Ph.D. dissertations in English literature on this theme, and I have started some parallel inquiries in that direction. However, insofar as you were evidently deeply interested in the subject yourself, I thought you might have sustained a continued contact with it and might be familiar with other writings on a similar track.

Adjunct to that, if you could think of a way of finding or generating a checklist of fiction titles that explore this theme that might also be helpful.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

JL/rr
Enclosure

cc: HB Glass
Sui Man 12/57

LEDERBERG, J.